

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

Edited by JOHN R. RICE.

"And they cried, The sword of the Lord and of Gideon." Judges 7:20

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DEATHBED REPENTANCE

By Rev. Lee Roberson, D.D.

Pastor, Highland Park Baptist Church; President, Tennessee Temple Schools, Chattanooga, Tennessee

"All that the Father giveth me shall come to me; and him that cometh to me I will in no wise cast out."—John 6:37.

"And one of the malefactors which were hanged railed on him, saying, If thou be Christ, save thyself and us. But the other answering rebuked him, saying, Dost not thou fear God, seeing thou art in the same condemnation? And we indeed justly; for we received the due reward of our deeds: but this man hath done nothing amiss. And he said unto Jesus, Lord, remember me when thou comest into thy kingdom. And Jesus said unto him, Verily I say unto thee, To day shalt thou be with me in paradise."—Luke 23:39-43.

Quite a number of times in my ministry people have asked me, "What do you think about death-

bed repentance? Will God accept it? What does the Bible say about it?"

By the expression "deathbed repentance" we commonly mean the turning to God of some lost sinner in the moments just before death steps in. It is human for us to question whether or not God will accept a person who neglected or ignored God during the days of life and then turned in the hour of death.

The answer to the question is surely given in the passages I have read to you. In John 6:37 we have the promise of Jesus of "him that cometh unto me, I will in no wise cast out."

In the twenty-third chapter of Luke we read of the salvation of the thief on the cross. Yes, God will honor repentance and faith at any time if it is sincere. He will honor the repentance and faith of a young child and of the

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Dr. Lee Roberson



Editor's Notes

Please send all mail to the editor to the office at Wheaton, Illinois.

WRITING WHILE DRIVING

Today I have had a converter installed in my car so I can plug in my dictating machine and dictate copy for THE SWORD OF THE LORD, dictate letters or instructions to my workers while driving across country. Often I have used a secretary, but it is difficult to write shorthand so it may be later read and transcribed while driving rapidly.

I have frequently travelled by plane and train all over the United States in revival work. But more and more the burden of editing THE SWORD OF THE LORD and directing the efforts of our workers have made it necessary for me to have help everywhere I go. Usually Mrs. Rice and my secretary go with me to extended revivals. We take

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PREACHER, SAVE THYSELF

By Evangelist Charles G. Finney, Great Soul Winner, Founder of Oberlin College

"Take heed unto thyself, and unto the doctrine; continue in them: for in doing this thou shalt both save thyself, and them that hear thee."—I Tim. 4:16.

I am not going to preach to preachers, but to suggest certain conditions upon which the salvation promised in this text may be secured by them.

1. See that you are constrained by love to preach the gospel, as Christ was to provide a gospel.

2. See that you have the special endowment of power from on high, by being filled with the Holy Spirit.

3. See that you have a heart, and not merely a head call to undertake the preaching of the gospel. By this I mean, be heartily and most intensely inclined to seek the salvation of souls as the great work of life, and do not undertake what you have no heart to.

4. Constantly maintain a close walk with God.

5. Make the Bible your book of books. Study it much, upon your knees, waiting for divine light.

6. Beware of leaning on commentaries. Consult them when convenient; but judge for yourself, in the light of the Holy Ghost.

7. Keep yourself pure—in will, in thought, in feeling, in word and action.

8. Contemplate much the guilt and danger of sinners, that your zeal for their salvation may be intensified.



Charles G. Finney

9. Also deeply ponder and dwell much upon the boundless love and compassion of Christ for them.

10. So love them yourself as to be willing to die for them.

11. Give your most intense thought to the study of ways and means by which you may save them. Make this the great and intense study of your life.

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"How Can I Know God's Will for My Life?"

By the Rev. Alan Redpath, Pastor

Duke Street Baptist Church, Richmond, Surrey, London, England

(Preached at the Fall Evangelistic Services, Wednesday evening, October 11, 1950. Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois. Mechanically recorded for THE SWORD OF THE LORD.)

"Unto thee, O Lord, do I lift up my soul. O my God, I trust in thee: let me not be ashamed, let not mine enemies triumph over me. Yea, let none that wait on thee be ashamed: let them be ashamed which transgress without cause. Shew me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy paths. Lead me in thy truth, and teach me: for thou art the God of my salvation; on thee do I wait all the day. Remember, O Lord, thy tender mercies and thy lovingkindnesses; for they have been ever of old. Remember not the sins of my youth, nor my transgressions: according to thy mercy remember thou me for thy goodness' sake, O Lord. Good and upright is the Lord: therefore will he teach sinners in the way. The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way. All the paths of the Lord are mercy and truth unto such as keep his covenant and his testimonies."—Psa. 25:1-10.

I believe that God has a purpose for every one of our lives.

There is a hymn we sing over in England, a line of which is, "There is a work for Jesus, none but you can do." God has an individual purpose for every life here tonight. And what's more, your life can only be truly happy, very peaceful, very enjoyable, victorious and thrilling if you get into God's will, get to know it and live in the power of it.

It conveys a sense of calm and of poise and of dignity and authority when you know that you are in the center of the will of God. The question is, how to get there.

God's Purpose to Make Every Christian Like Himself

The will of God concerning character is universal. The will of God concerning service is individual. The will of God concerning the character of each one of us is that one day we must be pre-

You are not made like Him in the flash of a moment. You are not certainly in any position in which you are the finished product and ready for Heaven. No, but by the continual indwelling, infilling and control of the Spirit of God in answer to your surrender and ascent and obedience every day, your life becomes molded and transformed into the likeness of our Lord. So we have seen that God's purpose for character is universal.

How to Know the Will of God

Now, tonight, I want to spend time with you upon the question of God's will for your life. Listen to what this man is saying in his prayer. The opening part of Psalm 25 is a prayer. The first seven verses are a prayer. In the process of prayer he says this, "Shew me thy ways, O Lord; teach me thy

paths. Lead me in thy truth" (vs. 4). Show me Thy ways. Open my eyes. Teach me Thy paths. Direct my mind. Lead me in Thy truth. Guide my steps.

Here is a man who is centering the whole gist and concern of his prayer upon knowing God's will. 'Lord, I want my eyes that I might see clearly; I want my feet that they might walk clearly in the center of Your will. Lord, teach me Thy ways. Open my eyes that I may see glimpses of truth Thou hast for me.' That's it.

It is the earnest desire of this man's heart that his whole body, personality and being must be lived every day in the center of God's will. He must have an open and a clear-thinking mind. He must walk in God's way—that is

his prayer. Then as you follow this Psalm you will notice that after verse 7 prayer changes to meditation. As the result of his prayer, he goes on to say, "Good and upright is the Lord: therefore will he teach sinners in the way. The meek will he guide in judgment: and the meek will he teach his way" (vss. 8,9).

See, he has been to the secret place with God. He has laid before the Lord the desire of his heart that God would teach him His will.

"In judgment"—is the same word as that which is used of the man who lives in the secret place of the Almighty: "Thou shalt tread upon the lion and adder" (Psa. 91:13). The word here means that the meek will God cause to walk victoriously in judgment. That is to say, God is prepared to lead your life every

(Continued on page 2)

Jesus, the Very Thought of Thee

Jesus, the very thought of Thee
With sweetness fills my breast;
But sweeter far Thy face to see,
And in Thy presence rest.

Nor voice can sing, nor heart can frame,
Nor can the memory find
A sweeter sound than Thy blest name,
O Saviour of mankind!

O Hope of every contrite heart,
O Joy of all the meek,
To those who fall, how kind Thou art!
How good to those who seek!

But what to those who find? Ah! this
Nor tongue nor pen can show,
The love of Jesus, what it is
None but His loved ones know.

—Bernard of Clairvaux; Trans. by Edward Caswall



Rev. Alan Redpath

The SWORD of the LORD

AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING REVIVAL WEEKLY

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The Gospel at a Glance

By Charles L. Ramsay

A PRAYER FOR WISDOM

Give therefore thy servant an understanding heart to lead my children to thee.



Another original Christian cartoon by Charles L. Ramsay, SWORD OF THE LORD cartoonist. Ramsay's 101 Christian Cartoons, with helpful comments, is now available. Sent postpaid \$1 a copy. Sword of the Lord, Wheaton, Ill.

Can I Know God's Will?

(Continued from page 1)

day in the center of His will with an absolute assurance that you are in the will of God and with complete peace upon knowing it. He has called you to walk victoriously in the knowledge of His will. Isn't that thrilling?

I find so many Christian folk today who just beat about the bush. Their life is haphazard, dishonest; they do not know what is God's purpose for them; they cannot think what is the next step to take—they just do not know. Now, isn't it true that the more we pray about it, very often the more obscure it becomes? If you and I were to talk this business over tonight, seriously together on our own, I would discover that many people here are living in a spiritual fog. They just do not know! Of course, they know what their way and their will and their purpose for life is. But what's God's will?

You have come here to Wheaton College to be trained for a certain job. Tell me, before you came here, did you pray, did you discover, Is that God's will for you? Are you quite certain that the thing you are majoring in today, you are majoring in because you believe that to be God's will, or is it only your own choice? Some of you might have to start all over again. Are you quite certain that you really have sought the mind of God about this matter and discovered His will for your life?

"Oh," but you say to me, "that's all very well, but how can that be done?"

That is what I want to ask. What I want to show you tonight is that the most important thing

in life is first of all to take time to discover what is the will of God.

Now, how can I know? I speak here to perhaps some of you who are really distressed about this thing. What is the way of finding out? God's promise is that He will cause us to stand victoriously in judgment, that we shall know the right thing and that we shall do it. The Lord Jesus took up that theme when He once said, "He that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life" (John 8:12).

Now listen folks. I do not believe that there is ever a moment in human experience when suddenly the whole pattern of God's plan is unfolded before us. I do not believe for a moment that there is ever a time in the Christian's life when he sees all that is along the way that God has planned, because the Christian life is a life of faith. But I have always believed that God gives to every one of us sufficient light to take the next step. Is that right? And if you are in the dark about the next step to take, there is something wrong with your susceptibility to guidance. He does not lead His child in the dark.

It is sometimes true He puts us to the test, sometimes true the Lord seems to lead us in a tunnel and we do not know which way to take. Well, that is the time to stand still and to wait for light and not get panicky. The trouble is sometimes that the Christian, when he is not sure, begins to get panicky. He begins to get concerned and worried and nervous: What shall I do next? He

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wonders what on earth he is going to do next Wednesday. He has a whole week to think about that, but what about today?

God Guides the Meek

God always gives light enough to take the next step. Now, the question is, How? This verse throws a flood of light to my mind on the whole subject of guidance. What does it say? "The meek will he guide in judgment; and the meek will he teach his way."

Now, that verse teaches me this, that the whole question of guidance is to stay, not in relationship to the particular problem, but in relationship to the character of the man concerned about the problem. "The meek will he guide in judgment." The Holy Spirit of God guides not the man's mind, but the man's spirit. Guidance is not discovered in relation to the problem, but guidance is discovered in relation to Jesus Christ. "The meek will he guide in judgment."

Now, it does not say *weak*; it says *meek*. There is all the difference in the world between the man who is *weak* and the man who is *meek*. Meekness, my friends, is strength. It is not very pleasant to be *meek*. Meekness means you do not retaliate. Meekness means you do not stand up for your own rights. Meekness means you do not have any rights except to know God's will. Meekness means that other people can scorn and mock and jeer and scoff at you and you can take it! Meekness means that you never are serving yourself. Meekness means that in your heart you have been broken. Meekness means that pride has been crushed. Meekness means that selfishness has been banished. Meekness means a spirit of humility, the spirit that was in Jesus Christ. It is the *meek* He will guide in judgment!

It is not easy to do that, you know. It is not easy when other people scorn your Christian teaching, your Christian life, your Christian experience and say that you are a perfect fool to seek to know the will of God and that you could be far happier without Him. It is not easy not to retaliate to that! It is not easy to be *meek* when you are criticized unjustly and your character is misrepresented. Always we want to stand up for ourselves and have our own way, but it is the *meek* whom God guides in judgment. Let me put it to you like this: the condition of an enlightened mind is a surrendered heart. Got that?

Now, when you have been seeking to know God's will, you have entirely concerned yourself about the particular purpose. That is the business of the Lord. Your concern is your relationship to Jesus Christ. If a man in his heart is right with God, God will see to it that He deals with the problem. You attempt to start the question of guidance at the wrong end. You are trying all the time, you are worrying your way through, you are panicky about this. What shall I do next? What is my next step in life? What am I to do?—you are continually concerned about your mind. God is concerned about your spirit. When He can find a man who has been truly broken in spirit, the humble and the contrite and the broken heart—that man God will *always* guide! See? But before you can know the will of God for your life, there has to be the brokenness of spirit in order that Jesus Christ has all of us.

Guidance Costs Absolute Surrender

Over and over again our concern has been simply to adjust ourselves to the problem. My friend, before you can be adjusted to the problem, God looks down and He says that you should be adjusted to Himself! The whole issue on the question of guidance is this: if you want to know God's will for your life, are you prepared to pay the price of knowing it? Oh, yes, you can know God's will, He has promised that, but He can only give the answer to your need and your prayer and reveal His part if He has the heart in *absolute* surrender, *all* the time at His feet!

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Saved in Three Minutes

By the late Dr. A. J. Gordon

Author of "My Jesus I Love Thee," "Ministry of the Spirit," etc.; Founder of Gordon College

Coming out of church not long since at the close of the morning service, a messenger met me, requesting that I would go at once to a neighboring house to see a young man who was considered to be near his end. I hurried to the place accordingly and, being ushered into the room, I sat down by the bed of the dying youth. Knowing that the time was short, I came at once to the all-important subject, and said:

"My dear friend, I see that you are very ill. Are you prepared for what may be before you?"

"Oh, if I only were," he replied, giving me a look, in which despair and importunity seemed strangely blended, "and if I could be spared two or three weeks I believe I might be prepared; but the doctor tells me I can live only a few hours."

So saying, he caught hold of my hand, and held it as a drowning man might hold to a plank or an overhanging limb.

"Three weeks?" I said, "why do you want three weeks?" And then he went on to give me his idea of conversion. There must first be conviction; and in order that this should be genuine and thorough-going time must be had for a careful review of the life, and an accurate weighing of its sins. And then there must be repentance; and the experience of godly sorrow must be long and deep to be acceptable to the Lord; and then faith and the new birth must come when the heart, by this process had been made ready. All of which he declared would occupy weeks in its accomplishment.

Having given me this detailed account of "the plan of salvation," as it lay in his mind, he sank back exhausted, and with a look that told how hopeless he regarded his condition, he looked imploringly into my eyes as though to say, "You see you can do nothing for me."

"Three weeks in order to be saved!" I exclaimed, "let me tell you how you may be saved in three minutes." So saying I opened the Word of God and read: "As many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name" (John 1:12). "If I give you this watch," I asked, "how long would it take you to receive it? Could you not take it at once?" He assented that he could. "The gift of God is eternal life" (Rom. 6:23). I said, reading again from the Bible. "What have you to do with a gift? Do you buy it or beg it, or wait a long time to be prepared to accept it? Now, God has given you His Son and eternal life in Him, so that the Scripture declares, 'He that hath the Son of God hath life' (I John 5:12). In order to have a gift, you must take it; and in order to have the Son of God, you must take Him."

"But how can I take Him? Tell me actually the way to do it," he exclaimed. Turning to Romans 10:9, I said, "Here we have the

way told exactly: "If thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved."

"Now," I said, "if you want to be saved, just accept Jesus as your Saviour and tell Him that you do so." So saying, I knelt by his side and bade him follow me in a simple prayer of acceptance. "Lord Jesus, I come to Thee. I am a sinner, Thou art the Saviour. I take Thee now to be my Saviour. I trust Thee, I receive Thee. I put my soul in Thy hands." That was all. I went away to attend to other duties, confident that saving faith had been exercised; and in the edge of evening I called again. I was shown into the room, where the conversation had taken place, and there lay the young man in the still sleep of death, but with the calm of Heaven on his face.

"Oh, if you could have heard him talk after you went away!" said the lady of the house. "He called us all in and said, 'Isn't it wonderful? That minister showed me how I could be saved in three minutes, when I had thought I must have weeks to prepare to die.' And calling upon the man of the house, who had been for some time a backslidden Christian, he said, 'Oh, come and kneel down here and praise God that He has saved me.' And when the man demurred, he pressed him with great earnestness, till he gave in, and the cold Christian was melted in the warmth of the young convert's love."

"Such a triumphant death," said the lady, "I never witnessed before."

"Instantaneous conversion," is a term which is a great stumbling block to many. "As though one could be a sinner one moment and a saint the next!" exclaims the objector.

But, without fear of contradiction, we do assert that one may be without eternal life at one moment, and possess eternal life at the next. "He that believeth on the Son hath eternal life," (John 3:36)—has it the moment he believes. That is to say, he has it in principle and in germ. As by taking the acorn in my hand, I have the oak that is to be, because the tree is wrapped up in the seed, so the moment I accept Christ I have eternal life which is in Christ. "And this is the record, that God hath given unto us eternal life, and this life is in his

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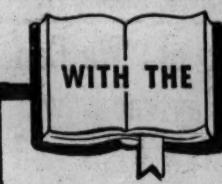
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With the Evangelists

REPORTS FROM AMERICA'S OUTSTANDING SOUL WINNERS

By the Editor

Thousands Hear Jim Mercer in Vancouver Tent Revival

(Reported by Bill Surber)

Decisions: 393.

Total attendance: 32,000.

These are the result figures which made pastors proclaim the Clark County (Washington) Gospel Crusade with Evangelist Jim Mercer an outstanding success.

The campaign in Vancouver barracks stretched from July 1-22. The expansive tent was filled by a total of 4,000 persons who attended both Sunday afternoon and night closing services.

"Christ for the Crisis" was the theme of Mercer's preaching, a direct result of the vision of the evangelical mission of Christians he captured in Bob Jones University.

Supporting ministers and congregations went for the Florida-born evangelist's hearty presentation of the Word of God. The Rev. Roy Clark, pastor of the First Friends Church of Vancouver, one of 53 churches to support the campaign, said:

"The meeting will have lasting results and be perpetuated because Christians were stirred to their opportunity and obligations for soul winning. To my mind this distinguished the revival from the usual evangelistic campaign."

The campaign was the first "county-wide effort for soul winning conducted in Vancouver in a quarter of a century," Jack Hagelganz, committee chairman and Youth for Christ leader, said. "I was personally blessed and we all feel that we have accomplished a work for Christ that will build for the future."

Orval Butcher, golden-voiced Irish tenor from Minneapolis, led singing for the Crusade. Bill Surber, converted newspaperman of Shelbyville, Tennessee, joined the evangelistic party the last week to take over Mercer's public relations and do personal work.

Preaching clearly from the Bible throughout the Crusade, Mercer was perhaps most commended for his two dynamic and revealing messages on: "Can A Christian?" (an explanation of Christian conduct) and "God's Last Call to the Unconverted."

Among other evaluations of the campaign were these testimonies:

Marshall Aylett, chairman of the ushering committee:

"I am very happy about the meeting. I was uplifted and feel the campaign did great good for all Christians in addition to the wonderful number of persons who made decisions. I am ready for another next year."

The Rev. Daniel A. Corbett, Emmanuel Baptist Church:

Engagements

Sword Staff of Evangelists

Kenneth Chapman

Aug. 6-19, Rev. Edward Mayfield, Sedalia Baptist Church, Sedalia, Ky.; Aug. 21-Sept. 2, Athens, Ala.; Sept. 9-23, Rev. L. E. Holzbach, Ivor, Va.

G. Covell Keenum

Aug. 5-19, Rev. Ray Shodin, 115-7th St. No., Great Falls, Mont.; Aug. 21-Sept. 2, Rev. Howard Sears, Grace Baptist Church, Middletown, O.; Sept. 5-16, Rev. Tim LaHaye, Route 10, Minneapolis, Minn.

Claude McDonald, Jr.

Aug. 12-Sept. 2, Rev. Robert J. Worrall, Upper Greenwood Lake, N. J.

James Threlfall

Aug. 12-26, Rev. Henry Hooge, Mennonite Brethren Church, Paxton, Nebr.; Sept. 2-16, Rev. T. S. Scott, First Baptist Church, Elizabeth at 5th St., Pekin, Ill.

Eddie Wagner

Sept. 1-23, Mr. Herb Tyler, (Y.F.C.), 1607 N. E. 7th, Portland 12, Ore.

J. Oscar Wells

Sept. 23-30, Rev. T. E. Weringo, Suck Springs Baptist Church, Route 1, Bedford, Va.

Douglas Winn

Aug. 12-19, Rev. Paul Long, East Tupelo, Miss.; Aug. 21-Sept. 3, Rev. Sorenson, Box 942, Canton, O.; Sept. 4, Salem, Va.; Sept. 5, Graham, N. C.; Sept. 6-7, Hickory, N. C.

These men on the Sword Staff of Evangelists have been called of God to do the work of an evangelist, and are willing to go wherever God clearly leads to help in a revival campaign. Each of these God-called men have ability, are deeply spiritual and are successful soul winners. Each one is a proven evangelist. Most of them have pastoral experience.

For dates with any of these men of the Sword Staff of Evangelists, write Rev. Ralph E. Mucher, Field Secretary, Sword Staff of Evangelists, 214 West Wesley Street, Wheaton, Illinois.

"I believe the meetings brought God's people together in a real way. The unsaved were awakened to their spiritual need. A county-wide campaign of this nature should be repeated."

The Rev. Paul G. Trulin of the Glad Tidings Church of the Assemblies of God:

"The Clark County Crusade in my opinion proved to be one of the most outstanding efforts ever launched in this vicinity. It was highly successful in winning the lost to Christ, reviving the believer, and placing the mark of division between the evangelical church and modernism. It has brought unity to the fundamental churches and has united them to a common front against sin and the evils of civic life."

The Rev. Bob Hite of the Trinity Baptist Church:

"I definitely believe that this type of meeting reaches people who will not go to church and I believe the meeting was a blessing to this community."

The Rev. Reuben Cogswell, Rosemere Friends Church:

"In my opinion it is one of the finest things that could ever have happened in this community—both to the church members and to members of the ministry. I believe the city-wide campaign is the pattern for this period and time—both for bringing God's people together and stirring sinners to repentance."

Eddie Wagner at Monticello, Illinois

Evangelist Eddie Wagner, Sword Staff Evangelist, and James Stoulenborough, song leader, held a good revival in June at the First Baptist Church of Monticello, Illinois. Thirty were saved and twenty followed the Lord in baptism.

Evangelist Foster D. Lott in Carthage, Texas

Evangelist Foster D. Lott of Bethany, Louisiana, has just completed a two weeks revival with the Southside Baptist Church of Carthage, Texas. Thirty-four united with this small church. Twenty-three of that number were for baptism, and all were adults except three. Brother Lott used his tent seating 2,000. The pastor of the Southside Church says: "I unreservedly recommend Evangelist Lott to anyone who is seeking a genuine revival in his own life and in the life of his church membership."

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

LETTERS ABOUT DR. E. STANLEY JONES

By the Editor

In *The Sword of the Lord* for July 6, 1951, I published an article, "Socialist-Modernist E. Stanley Jones." I have had a good many letters from readers about that article. Naturally a good many wrote to thank us for the clear stand. But we are not going to print here any of the letters which favored the article. Rather we will print some of those which did not favor it and our reply.

A Kindly Attorney Disagrees

Honorable Elmer A. Langford of Cookeville, Tennessee, writes most generously and kindly about the editor and then says:

"It is my opinion that, being the fine Christian that you are and with great influence that you have for good, you went a little too far, in some respects in your article, 'Socialist-Modernist E. Stanley Jones,' in *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* of July 6, 1951. Certainly I expect all men to err, but it touches me more when one in whom I have such great confidence, as I do in you, errs."

The editor's answer follows:

"Dear Brother Langford:

"Your letter of July 18 touches me deeply. Thank you for your generous words. I am sorry that you differed with me in the matter of the article on Dr. E. Stanley Jones. I hesitate to grieve my friends and especially good earnest Christian men. At the same time, across this whole nation I have come in contact with the effects of the socialistic teaching of Dr. E. Stanley Jones, 'the red bishop' Dr. Oxnam, and others of the Methodist Federation for Social Action. I assure you that I am absolutely convinced and the strongest and best Christians in America whom I know are also convinced that they are doing incalculable harm in breaking down faith in the Bible, in opposing the Christian philosophy taught in the Bible concerning private ownership of property, pay for work according to merit, free, competitive enterprise, the right to save, invest, etc. The Federal Bureau of Investigation, the United States Navy Intelligence, and other important groups feel as I do. And Dr. Jones is on record year after year as favoring Russia's economy over that of the United States and favoring modernists who deny the integrity and authority of the Bible against fundamental Bible believers.

"In the first place, Dr. Jones is either so fuzzy-minded that he does not know, or he is definitely insincere and intentionally misleading when he does not want to be called a socialist. For a socialist he is in his proposals, in his sympathies, and in his efforts. I am sorry, of course, to have you differ with me.

"Why not get for yourself Dr. Jones' book on *Christ's Alternative to Communism*, and read that introduction thoroughly and come to your own conclusion about Dr. Jones' position? And then note how carefully he maintains his connection with modernists like 'the red bishop' Dr. Oxnam and see how he fights fundamentalists.

"In the dear Saviour's name, yours,

"John R. Rice"

"In Jesus' name, yours,

"John R. Rice"

Pastor Dislikes Controversy

Rev. E. C. Frierson, pastor of the Gospel Crusaders Church, 825 East Buchtel Avenue, Akron 5, Ohio, writes the following kind letter:

"My dear Dr. Rice:

"For more than a year I have been a reader of *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* and feel that a paper with such a glorious title should give itself to publishing truth in such a way as to lead a faltering church to triumphant victory in Christ. Your controversy with the beliefs and teachings of E. Stanley Jones is not consistent with the dignity that the title of your paper suggests. May we read pungent, positive, convincing truth instead of controversy which does not aid the cause of Christ?

"Sincerely,

"(Signed) E. C. Frierson"

We appreciate this kindly letter and are sure it is an honest opinion. Here is the editor's answer:

"Dear Brother Frierson:

"I am always glad to have an honest opinion by a good man of God. Thank you for your letter of July 7.

"But when you say we should have no controversy with evil as in the case of the socialism and pro-Russian attitude of Dr. E. Stanley Jones, then I think you are definitely mistaken, and that further reflection in the light of the plain commands of the Scripture will convince you of that.

"For example, in Isaiah 58:1 we are commanded, 'Cry aloud, spare not, lift up thy voice like a trumpet, and shew my people their transgression . . .' Paul said to Timothy, 'All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works' (II Tim. 3:16, 17). Reproof and correction are a proper part of the work of every man of God. Again the preacher was commanded, 'Them that sin rebuke before all, that others also may fear' (I Tim. 5:20). Again God's man is commanded to 'preach the word . . . reprove, rebuke, exhort with all longsuffering and doctrine' (II Tim. 4:2). In view of such plain commands I cannot ignore sin and false teachers. You like the title of *THE SWORD OF THE LORD*, but you want it to be sheathed and never used against evil. The Word of God is a two-edged sword and it should be used against sin. It is a hammer, and it should be used to break the rock in pieces, according to the Scriptures. And socialism and communism are so alien to Christianity, so opposed to the Christian philosophy and the clear commands of the Bible about

private ownership of property, private enterprise and rewards according to labor, that every Christian ought to be against them and every preacher ought to preach against them. And the modernism of Dr. E. Stanley Jones, teaching that the Bible is not, all of it, the infallible Word of God is not only unbelief of the worst kind, but is deadly dangerous. So, though I appreciate your kindly word, I must continue to take a clear stand against sin in the columns of *THE SWORD OF THE LORD*. Otherwise it would not be a sword at all and certainly not the sword of the Lord.

"In the Saviour's name, yours,

"John R. Rice"

Lady Decries "So Much Division in Fundamental Circles"

Mrs. Clara P. Dreger of 662 N. Oakland Avenue, Pasadena 4, California, writes that Dr. E. Stanley Jones "believes in the fundamentals of our faith" and says, "It grieves me to the heart, as I have seen so much division in fundamental circles."

The editor answers as follows:

"My dear Mrs. Dreger:

"Thank you for your letter of July 5.

"You do not like the article in which I quote Dr. E. Stanley Jones' own position favoring Russia, against the American and the Bible way of private ownership of property, reward according to service, etc. You say, 'It grieves me to the heart, as I have seen so much division in fundamental circles.' But Dr. E. Stanley Jones is not in fundamental circles. He expressly says that he does not want to be called a fundamentalist. He is in modernist circles, and that by choice. His closest buddies in the work are 'the red bishop' Dr. Oxnam, and others like him who deny every fundamental of the faith. So when I show what Dr. E. Stanley Jones himself said against the Bible and against American freedom, I am not talking about someone in fundamental circles.

"However, in regards to the particular article referred to above, I want to tell you of my genuine disagreement with what you have written. I do not wish to become involved in a long, verbal discussion with you for I believe it would not change either your opinion or mine. But I feel you have read into Dr. Jones' statements ideas which are not actually there in his words.

"Keep up your good work.

"Cordially, in our Lord's service,

"(Signed) Jack Reichenstein"

Here is the editor's answer:

"My dear Brother Reichenstein:

"I am always glad to hear from readers of *THE SWORD OF THE LORD* and to have their candid opinion. Why don't you say plainly that you favor Russia and atheistic communism instead of Americanism? Why don't you say that you hope Dr. Jones will succeed in breaking down the American way and bringing communism to America? I do not doubt that you are a good woman, but evidently an unformed one. If you favor the things I quoted verbatim from Dr. Jones' book, then, of course, you are not a fundamental, Bible-believing Christian and you are not a good American. If you do not

favor those things, you should say so instead of taking up for them. Is that not right?

"In Jesus' name, yours,

"John R. Rice"

Pastor Wants His Letter Printed

Rev. Howard L. Hahn, R. R. No. 2, Wanatah, Indiana, writes a rather long letter from which we take the following paragraphs:

"Evangelist John R. Rice

"214 West Wesley Street

"Wheaton, Illinois

"Dear Sir:

"I agree thoroughly with your secretary: 'WHAT do you hope to gain by writing such an article?' Only a morbid self-satisfaction at having dished out some more half-truths. I refer to the article in your

(Continued on page 9)

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Booklet Lies Unread a Year, Then Man Writes of His Decision When He Reads It

July 8, 1951

"Dear Brother Rice:

"Realizing that I am a sinner and believing that Christ died for my sins, I here and now trust Him to be my personal Saviour, depending on Him to forgive all my sins, change my heart, and give me everlasting life as He promised to do. I am glad to confess Him as my Saviour and gladly mail this to let you know."

(signed) Charles Mahatsu
San Fernando, Trinidad,
B. W. Indies

Then follows this note:

"Dear Brother Rice:

"I would like to let you know how I happened to read your booklet, 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?'

"This booklet was lying at my home for perhaps as long as an entire year. On the 7th of July, 1951, around 12 noon, I was passing by my mother's bed and saw her searching among old papers. Recently I had some trouble which is not yet finished, and thought that only God can help me through safely, so I decided to devote my time towards reading the Holy Bible and other religious books.

"I sat down on her bed and searched for leaflets and other religious articles, among which I found your booklet, 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?' I assort the leaflets and read them through and decided to read your booklet the next day.

"That night I went to sleep as usual after saying my prayers but was awakened by my brother who came home around 11 p.m. I tried to sleep again but found it impossible. I jumped up in bed and started reading your booklet which was near at hand.

"When I had completed the reading, I wrote this letter to you on this airmail form, which I found the same day on my mother's bed. This letter was completed at 1:25 a.m. on Sunday, July 7, 1951. Sorry I cannot tell you more on this form."

(signed) Charles Mahatsu
San Fernando, Trinidad,
B. W. Indies

South India Seminary Uses "The Home" As Basic Textbook

"RAMAPATNAM BAPTIST THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
"Ramapatnam, Nellore District, South India

"June 25, 1951

"President:
"Rev. Maurice Blanchard,
Th.M., Th.D.
"Dr. John R. Rice
"Wheaton, Illinois, U. S. A.

"Dear Dr. Rice:

"I am herewith enclosing one five dollar bill. Will you please send me by air-mail one copy of your book on The Home. We have decided we want to use it as the basic text-book for our Seminary here. Of course, the instruction is all in Telugu. The professor will be the one to use the book. I don't know how much it will cost to send by air-mail; but we need it before school opens on July 12th. If it costs more than I have sent, I will pay the remainder later.

"You will be glad to know that Brother Fred Garland, an evangelist, is having us print, in Telugu, several thousand of your little booklets, 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?'

"Yours, sincerely, for the glory of Christ,"

(Signed) Maurice Blanchard

"Eaton" Truck Driver Reads "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" and Makes Decision for Christ

"Hamilton, Ontario

"July 12, 1951

"Dear Dr. Rice:

"Last week I received the twelve 'Whats' and that day I

gave the first one to 'Eaton's' driver who was delivering some goods here. He said he would read it. In a few days he was here again on delivery and I asked him if he had read it, and he said he certainly had, and when I asked him if he had accepted the Lord Jesus as his own personal Saviour, his face, always so solemn, lighted up with a real smile, as he said yes, he had. I asked him if he would write to you, I urged him to. I told him I had been praying for him...."

(Signed) Mrs. J. L. Cassel

2 Saved As a Result of 3c Stamp

"June 21, 1951

"Dear Brother Rice:

"I know Mr. and Mrs. Walter Feeback were saved as a result of a 3 cent stamp because I sent 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?' to them by mail and soon after they were saved. He said that is the best I ever read on salvation. Hallelujah!"

(Signed) Leonard Otten

Two Reported Conversations After Reading Alexander Marshall's Sermon in Sword

"June 12, 1951

"Dear Brother Rice:

"It was through the sermon, 'God's Way of Salvation,' by Alexander Marshall in the May 4 issue that my husband came to know the Lord Jesus Christ. His excuse was the thirteenth in the sermon, but now says he has assurance that one can know whether he is saved or not.

Mrs. Richard Williams
Skipwith, Virginia

"June 9, 1951

"Dear Rev. Rice:

"I have just finished reading THE SWORD OF THE LORD, which happens to be the fourth of May issue. I really want to tell you and the whole world that I have not ever read anything in all my life that helped me as much as the article by Alexander Marshall, 'God's Way of Salvation.' This was really spiritual food for my soul. I have been in this South Carolina state pen for fifteen months, and I have some better than three more years; and if I never become a free man again, I hope I can save souls and keep working for Christ. . . . Please pray for my wife and baby in Everett, Washington, and all my loved ones; and remember me in all your prayers. I am unlearned and don't have much education, so please excuse this. I just happened to pick up this SWORD OF THE LORD and started to read it, and I really got something out of it. If you wish to, you can tell my wife in a letter that I have made my decision and really wish that she would do the same, for He is a merciful God full of kindness. . . . Please remember me in your prayers, as I need strength to fight the wiles of Satan."

(Signed) Freddie Davis, No. 40728
Columbia, South Carolina

Salesman and Wife Find Christ

"Alton, Illinois

"July 5, 1951

"Dear Brother Rice:

"The Word of Life Mission Band, of which I am the director, uses your tract, 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?' in our personal work. We work among the underprivileged in the city of Alton. One of our workers was approached by the landlady at his rooming house and asked him if he would mind letting a salesman and his wife use his room for the night and he, since he was 'single', sleep downstairs. He gladly did so. But before he went down he felt led of the Lord to leave a tract, 'What Must I Do to Be Saved?' on his desk, hoping that they might read it. He retired.

"The next morning the salesman (he has a good position with his

Gospel Literature Results

By the Editor

On this page my secretary has assembled reports on a few of the many recent letters telling of salvation through Sword of the Lord literature. We thank God that He continues to bless the literature, saving souls through the literature spread throughout America and in many lands, in several languages, and that He continues to bless Christians through the books and through THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

We earnestly covet your prayer for this work. Just now in Wheaton we are printing 400,000 copies of the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" in English. It will cost us considerably more than \$2,000. These copies will be spread all over the world wherever people read English; among American soldiers, among rural school children, in prisons, distributed by individuals as tracts, and widely used in Canada, the British Isles, South Africa, Australia, New Zealand, and, surprisingly in a number of foreign countries where English is taught in the schools and widely read.

A large printing of the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" in Spanish is now under way. Tens of thousands of copies will be needed regularly.

We need nearly a thousand dollars right away for a great new printing of the booklet, "What Must I Do to Be Saved?" in Japan. We are grieved to report that the booklets have to be rationed to missionaries of about ten different mission boards in Japan. Instead of giving the booklet to everybody who wants it and would read it, usually it is given to those who have already manifested a desire to be saved, or who have already claimed to trust Christ and must be taught the very fundamentals of the Christian faith. One team of Christian workers, this year, would give out a million copies of this booklet in Japan if they were available. We will rush more money to them as soon as possible.

Other thousands of dollars are needed for the spread of this literature in India, in Portugal, in South America. We hope all of our friends will pray.

You will remember that the Sword of the Lord Foundation is a non-profit corporation, very carefully administered, wholly dedicated to getting out the gospel. As editor of THE SWORD OF THE LORD and president of the Foundation, I get not a penny of salary, not a penny of income from articles in THE SWORD, and no commission on subscriptions. Mrs. Rice and I are helping, and I trust others will help.

Read these wonderful stories of salvation and rejoice with us.

company), asked the landlady whose room he had used. Upon finding out he immediately went to the worker in the Mission Band and thanked him for leaving the tract. He told Bob, 'My wife and I found peace in our hearts last night for the first time in our lives through reading that little booklet.' It seems that the man and his wife had lost their teen-age son a year or so ago. They became bitter with the world and were in a state of confusion that drove them nearly to a nervous breakdown. But they found peace in their hearts that night through the tract you wrote. The man wanted to pay the mission worker who in return told him that if he wanted to send an offering for the Lord's work to send the gift to you for your work.

"I knew that you would rejoice in hearing about these two who found the Lord. We use your literature and books extensively in our mission work. We have sent about \$50 of your books to native workers in Africa who needed instruction in the Lord's work. Your books have been such an inspiration to my life that I want to get them into the hands of as many people as possible for I know that the Lord will use them to transform the lives of others also."

(Signed) Brother Bus

Brother and Wife Saved After Reading "What Must I Do to Be Saved?"

"July 1, 1951

"Dear Mr. Rice:

"I am sending this signed confession in behalf of my brother and his wife. He has been suffering now for about three years with sugar diabetes and has had two operations on his foot, and is still in pretty bad shape. I have been writing him and sending him tracts, and praying for him, and

Reading of "We Can Have Revival Now" Gives New Hope and Vision to One Defeated and Depressed

"... your interpretation of the Bible concerning our times in the articles on 'We Can Have Revival Now' has given me new hope and a new vision. I have heard it preached so often that the end is so near that instead of its helping me have a greater zeal and work harder, I felt defeated and depressed. Thank you, Dr. Rice, for encouraging me. Now I do have that new zeal and greater faith. . . ." Mrs. Harold Graham, Trinidad, Colo.

Filipino Family Claims Christ

In the editor's book, *Home: Courtship, Marriage and Children* (381 pages, 22 chapters, \$2.50) at the close, Dr. Rice urges readers to have the whole family claim Christ as Saviour. We are glad to have, dated April 12, a letter from the Philippine Islands with this solemn pledge and decision. It reads:

"Evangelist John R. Rice
"214 W. Wesley Street
"Wheaton, Illinois, U. S. A.

"Dear Mr. Rice:

"Having read the above chapter on 'Making Christ Head of the Home,' all the undersigned members of our family do here and now decide that we will take Christ as our own Saviour, that we will let Him be Lord of our lives and Lord of our home. Realizing that we are sinners, and depending on Christ to forgive our sins and save our souls, we here and now claim Him and receive Him and trust Him. We will try to live for Him from this day forth.

"Father—Silvestre G. Saldavia, Jr.

"Mother—Luz Jimena Saldavia

"Children—1. Polly Jane Saldavia

2. Henry Ebenezer Saldavia

3. Bethel Joy Saldavia

This Christian asks for more Christian literature. We are sending him a subscription to THE SWORD OF THE LORD through our Ministers and Missionaries Subscription Fund. Thousands of such Christians in the Philippine Islands, in Japan, even in England, are not allowed to send money out of the country, but want THE SWORD OF THE LORD and would like to have it. We hope friends will help us send the paper to all who need it and who wish it and cannot pay for it.

Those who desire to help our Ministers and Missionaries Fund may send your offerings for this purpose to the Ministers and Missionaries Fund, Sword of the Lord, Wheaton, Illinois.



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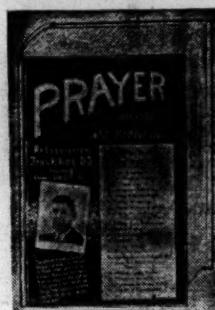
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Saved in Three Minutes

(Continued from page 2)

Son. *He that hath the Son hath life* (I John 5:11). Instantaneous conversion is no more incredible than instantaneous enlistment. In the British army a recruit is enlisted by accepting an English shilling. The moment the coin touches his palm he is a soldier. He may be a very raw recruit,

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24-40 pages each, usually sell for 15c each. During August only they are sold at the reduced price of 12c each, or all 25 pamphlets for \$2.75.	
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Strange Short Stories

By Dr. Walter L. Wilson



DURING AUGUST



On All Sword Books

life is quite another matter. That may take years. "I am come that they might have life," says Jesus, and "that they may have it more abundantly" (John 10:10). "He that believeth on the Son hath life" (John 3:36). He that continues in the faith and grows in grace will have life more abundant.

Blessed be God for a gospel that can save us in three minutes—yea, in one minute, when we simply believe on God's Son.

As God's Word warns us against proposing what we will do tomorrow: "Whereas thou knowest not what shall be on the morrow," it will not surely offer us a way of salvation which it will take many to-morrows to accomplish. "Now is the accepted time;... now is the day of salvation" (II Cor. 6:2). And, reader, be assured that now if you accept Christ, "this day is salvation come to thy house" (Luke 19:9).

The Editor's Notes

(Continued from page 1)

typewriters, dictating machine, files of material which may be needed, manuscripts, etc.

Next Friday I start a two-days' drive to Dallas and then to Aquilla, Texas, for our Latham Springs Conference on Revival and Soul Winning, at the Latham Springs Baptist Encampment Ground. I can do some writing while others drive. Later we will drive to and from Pensacola, Florida, then way down to Harlingen, Texas, (3-days' drive) for a revival and back. Long days in the car can be used to the glory of God. Books are waiting to be written, sermons long preached and planned are waiting to be put in print, more letters than we can answer need attention.

OFF TO THREE CONFERENCES

In the car Friday morning will be Mrs. Rice, Joanna, Joy and Jessie Rice, Miss Viola Walden and this editor. We plan to spend Saturday night, August 4, in Dallas, Texas, where I will preach Sunday morning at the Galilean Baptist Church. With the Lord's help and the help of many good people I founded the church in 1932, was pastor seven and a half years, moving to Wheaton, Illinois, in 1940. Sunday afternoon at three o'clock we are to be at the Latham Springs Baptist Encampment Ground for the Sword of the Lord Conference on Revival and Soul Winning, August 5 to 10. Then Saturday, August 11, I am to speak at Youth for Christ at Fayetteville, Arkansas, and Sunday we begin the annual Sword Conference on Revival and Soul Winning at the Baptist State Assembly Ground, Siloam Springs, Arkansas, running August 12 to 17.

Saturday, August 18, I fly, God willing, to Grand Manor, near Washington Boro and Lancaster, Pennsylvania, where I am to speak for nine days, August 18 to 26. Other speakers will be Rev. Andrew Telford of Berachah Church, Philadelphia, Rev. W. A. Dean of the Philadelphia School of the Bible and Evangelist Joe Miller. We had a blessed time there last year. Readers will still have time to attend. We expect crowds up to fifteen hundred or two thousand, to overwhelm the camp ground.

SAVE DURING AUGUST BOOK SALE! The Sword of the Lord Publishers is now conducting a great

(Continued on page 7)

The chemist would say that tears are a combination of sodium chloride, phosphate of lime, mucus and water. The pastor would say that tears are the bleeding of a broken heart. The police officer would say that tears are a sign of weakness.

There is much about tears in the Bible. Our Saviour only left two things on earth that were a part of Himself; His tears and His blood. His tears revealed that His heart was touched with the feeling of our infirmities and that He is glad to bear our griefs and carry our sorrows. His blood bears testimony to His great desire to cleanse us from iniquity and sin. In Gethsemane the Saviour prayed with strong crying and tears.

A QUEEN'S TEARS are mentioned in Esther 8:3. Here this lovely Jewess presented her petition to the king for the preservation of her people. The prayer was effective, the king was moved, the petition was granted. She made request for her people at the risk of her own life. These tears revealed her earnestness, her devotion, her purpose of heart. Praying with tears is usually effective.

A FARMER'S TEARS are referred to in Psalm 126:5, 6. Salt water seems to make seed grow. Why should a sower be weeping? What is there about the seed or the soil or the service to bring tears to the eyes? This passage says, "They that sow in tears shall reap in joy." The passage is referring to the sowing of the seed of the gospel, not corn or wheat or barley. The tears come because of the tragedy of a life in which there is no Christ. When God's long-suffering ends, the sinner's long suffering begins. The tears are there because of the danger that lies ahead in the path of that one who has not yet received the good seed into his heart. The tears show that we believe. The tears are proof that we care when we go out with the gospel. The Lord enable us to mourn for lost men!

A FATHER'S TEARS are brought before us in Mark 9:24. What a scene of sorrow this is. It is re-enacted over and over again in many homes. Here is a wicked boy with a praying father. What anguish that father had seen as the wicked spirit had afflicted the lad. The father's heart yearning over the boy could not be comforted. How cruel the Devil is! He wrecks the life and laughs at the wreck. He ruins the soul and rejoices over the ruin. He breaks the heart and pours liquid fire into the wound. There is no grace in the Devil's program. There is no mercy in Satan's plan. The father's prayer is recorded in this passage as he came to Jesus and said with TEARS, "Lord, I believe; help thou mine unbelief." Such tears are precious in the sight of the Lord. Such tears tell of a true heart, a believing heart, a downright earnest heart. Such tears have power with God. Bring your boy, father; bring your daughter. He will see your tears and answer your cry.

A SINNER'S TEARS move our hearts as we read Luke 7:38. Here a sinful woman is seen kneeling at Jesus' feet. She washed His feet with her tears and wiped them with the hairs of her head. Probably she had been standing in some dark doorway on a street of Capernaum when Jesus uttered that memorable cry, "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest" (Matt. 11:28). All the men she had

ever met came to rob her. They had probably taken all she had, even her virtue. They had added to her troubles and increased her sorrows. Here was a Man who would give rest to her troubled heart. She brought her alabaster box, the oriental girl's hope chest and crushed it at the feet of the One to whom she would give her heart and her love. Christ saw those tears. They revealed her true repentance. They brought from His heart forgiveness and peace. Have you been to the Saviour's feet with your tears? Have you ever really come to Him for what only He can give? Kneel there today, a suppliant for His mercy.

THE TEARS OF A KING as he wept upon his bed in the presence of death (II Kings 20:5) remind us that even royalty may be wretched. Kings and queens do have tears, so do statesmen and bankers, admirals and presidents. The wealthy, the strong, the prominent, all have tears; sorrow is universal. No means by men can prevent its entrance into any heart. The tears of Hezekiah, the king, touched the heart of God and brought to him fifteen ad-

(Continued on page 8)

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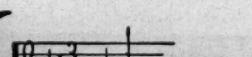
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Can I Know God's Will?

(Continued from page 2)

What an amazing example of that was the Lord Jesus Christ! "My meat," He said, "is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work" (John 4:34). "My meat," He said, "to do Thy will, O God, and the joy and the victory and the power of My life is to do the will of God and to finish His work! All through His earthly life, He was under the guidance and control and direction of the Father because there was a meekness and an obedience and a submission to the will of God! The Lord Jesus Christ never permitted one rival claim to God's will. Because He never permitted a rival claim, God led Him, directed Him, guided Him and brought Him through in victory!

Listen, the moment you or I permit in our lives a rival claim to the purpose of God, the end of guidance is in sight. You will never be guided by the Holy Spirit unless the Holy Spirit is in control—never! You will never find your life adjusted to problems unless, completely, it is at the disposal of the Lord. Divided loyalty is the end of all possible light to the future.

And it may be that as I speak to some fellows and girls here tonight who are in the dark about the future—you are in the dark because you are permitting in your life a divided loyalty. Something else or someone else has crept in, and there is a divided control. And because of the divided control, there is no clear way through to the problems of the future. You have to go back to the place, my friend, in your experience where you disobeyed God, where you allowed a divided loyalty, and you have to confess that to the Lord in bitterness of shame and repentance and then there will be light upon the path! Listen, there will never be another shed of light upon our path until you are prepared to go back to the place of

(Continued on page 10)

disobedience and get right with Him. Got that?

Oh, this question of guidance is very practical, it is very real, but it is going to cost you. I can well believe that some of you fellows and girls have come to this college with a deep concern for God's will and you believe God's will to be something or other, and since you have been here you have allowed another affection, another person, another interest to take your life, to take your claims, and the result is, you are in a complete fog now. Some thing, some one has crept into your life and stolen the place to which Jesus Christ is entitled, and He is no longer on the throne—He was once, but now He has been put off. And the question of knowing God's will is a desperate problem and the future is terribly dark. Of course, it is. And it will remain like that until you put Him back in the place of Sovereign.

I say to you, how sincere are you in this matter of wanting to know God's will? That is what I want to know. Do you mean it? Or are you just fooling? Do you really mean you want to know God's will for your life, or are you just pretending? You want this, but only on your own terms? You want this only if you can keep your girl friend? You want God's will only if you can keep that boy?

Well, my friend, you have got to make your choice, make up your mind about that. You cannot have God's will under divided affection! God must be first; Jesus Christ must be on the throne; you must be in utter and complete surrender to Him and then He will direct you in the way of judgment. Do you see it? The first principle of knowing the will of God concerning anything is the absolute surrender of your life to a living Lord. And when He is on the throne, He will guide. "The meek will he guide in judgment."

(Continued on page 10)

The Editor's Notes

(Continued from page 6)

sale of all the books and pamphlets we publish, with prices reduced one-fifth from the regular retail prices. I hope that those who can use any of these books will get them now and save as much money as possible. For example, the big book, *Prayer—Asking and Receiving*, 328 large pages, can now be bought for \$1.60 postpaid! Remember these offers are for books we publish ourselves, Sword of the Lord books. Your order must be in the mail and postmarked by midnight, August 31, to get these prices.

Remember, too, that we guarantee Sword of the Lord books to please or money will be cheerfully refunded, provided books are returned like new, unsoiled, unbroken, unmarked. You cannot lose by ordering good Christian books from the Sword of the Lord Publishers.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL—not NECESSARILY UNION

The work of the Sword of the Lord is inter-denominational. That means that we work with all Bible-believing groups of Christians. One who knows the Lord Jesus as a personal Saviour is our brother. We are glad to promote revivals among all groups. The large cooperative revival campaigns the editor conducts are often sponsored by churches and pastors of many denominations. However, let it be known that we are not for church union. We are not for the uniting of Bible believers with modernists, in a super-church organization. We believe in cooperation of denominations, but not union. We do not encourage any group of sincere Bible believers to throw away great convictions. Those who agree on the great fundamentals of the faith, including the inspiration of the Bible, the deity of Christ and His blood atonement, His virgin birth and His bodily resurrection, salvation by faith in Christ, can work together, can cooperate in many things. We do

BOOK Reviews

BOOK REVIEWS IN THIS COLUMN WILL USUALLY BE BY JUDGES OF THE SWORD BOOK CLUB AND WILL BE SIGNED

FINNEY LIVES ON. By V. Raymond Edman. Fleming H. Revell Co., New York. 250 pages, \$2.50.

Evangelist Charles G. Finney was to the first half of the nineteenth century in America what D. L. Moody was to the last half. Covering a somewhat smaller area, and so reaching fewer people than D. L. Moody, the revivals led by Charles G. Finney were in many respects the most remarkable America has ever seen for thoroughly changing whole communities and in the large percentage of the population converted.

Finney's Autobiography, telling the story of his conversion and revivals, and his *Revival Lectures* particularly, telling the message and methods of his revivals, are life-changing books. My beloved and admired friend, Dr. V. Raymond Edman, president of Wheaton College, has rewritten the story of Finney for modern times. He has drawn heavily on the charming and immortal words of Finney himself but has analyzed and drawn lessons, in a way to stir the heart of all who long for revival today. The breath of God has been on Dr. Edman. And I thank God that he has made the

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marvelous revival work which God did through Charles G. Finney easily known to modern readers in this grand, heart-warming story of Finney and his revivals. Here you will see how man must be filled with the Spirit of God for revival, how he will suffer opposition, if God's power is upon him. Here you will see principles for revival preaching, the power of prayer in revival. I urge preachers to get this book.

DR. JOHN R. RICE

DE SHAZER, The Amazing Story of. By C. Hoyt Watson. Light and Life Press, Winona Lake, Indiana. 181 pages, \$2.

The thrilling story of Sergeant Jacob De Shazer, one of General Doolittle's raiders, who spent forty months in prison, was condemned to death, later reprieved by Emperor Hirohito, converted in prison, and is now a beloved missionary in Japan. The volume contains sixty-seven pictures, and is the almost unbelievable story of the power of God through a consecrated individual. De Shazer is winning thousands to Christ. During his first year in Japan, the Associated Press estimated the number of converts at 30,000; he reports 4,000 converts in one fifteen-day campaign. A spiritual tonic for our day.

DR. JOHN L. HILL

A WATCHMAN ON THE WALL, the Life Story of Will H. Houghton. By Wilbur M. Smith. Erdmans Publishing Company, Grand Rapids. \$2.50.

As every one knows, Wilbur Smith is an exceptionally gifted writer. But here, for the first time, there is warmth of feeling, a personal touch to his pen that does justice to the life story of the late Will H. Houghton. At least the story is told as well as any one man could tell it. And what a story it is! As I read this book I lived again as a student in the Moody Bible Institute. Again I met Dr. Houghton for the first time and was so surprised that he already knew my name and was acquainted with my background! Again I laughed at his quips, listened as he taught Bible Synthesis and wept as he prayed.

EVANGELIST

WILLIAM H. RICE

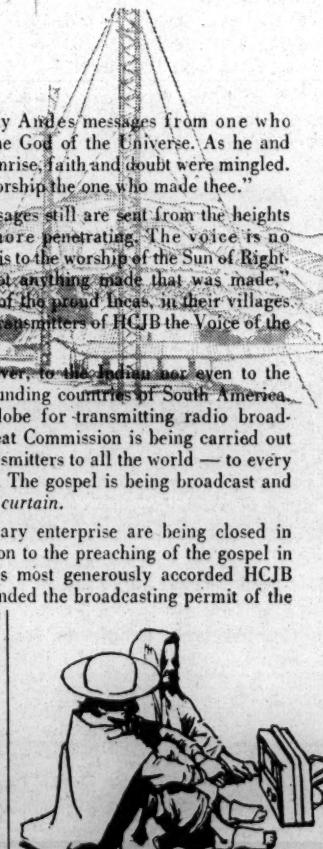


Centuries ago there were signalled across the mighty Andes messages from one who believed himself to be the representative of the sun, the God of the Universe. As he and millions of his Inca empire bowed in worship daily at sunrise, faith and doubt were mingled. "We worship thee, O Sun and if thou are not God we worship the one who made thee."

Today and every day with each sunrise, the messages still are sent from the heights of the Andes, but the signals are stronger, clearer, and more penetrating. The voice is no longer uncertain—doubt is at last banished as the call is to the worship of the Sun of Righteousness, the Creator of the sun, "without whom was not anything made," our Redeemer, Christ Jesus. The scattered descendants of the proud Incas, in their villages, hear the message in their own language from the radio transmitters of HCJB the Voice of the Andes in Quito, the mountain capital of Ecuador.

The message of redemption is not limited, however, to the Indians nor even to the Spanish-speaking inhabitants of Ecuador and the surrounding countries of South America. Quito is technically one of the favorable spots on the globe for transmitting radio broadcasts to the entire world. The result is that today the Great Commission is being carried out literally by station HCJB in broadcasting via its six transmitters to all the world—to every continent—in a dozen languages—including Russian. The gospel is being broadcast and being heard daily around the world and behind the iron curtain.

Even now, when doors to conventional missionary enterprise are being closed in Europe and Asia, and when there is increasing opposition to the preaching of the gospel in many places, the friendly government of Ecuador has most generously accorded HCJB membership in the National Order of Merit and has extended the broadcasting permit of the



station to 1980 with the authority to increase the transmitting power to 100,000 watts. This challenge must be accepted—and immediately! The 100,000 watt power is desperately needed to insure adequate and sustained reception especially in Europe and Asia where an increasing number of Communist-controlled stations are competing dangerously.

At the moment, the necessary equipment to enlarge our station is still available, but under present-day conditions, such opportunities may disappear overnight. Needed materials are being shipped to Quito as rapidly as possible so that staff engineers and local technicians can, with utmost economy, continue construction of the enlarged transmitters.

However, some of the heavy equipment such as transformers and generators, which have been located and ear-marked for us, have not yet been purchased because of lack of funds.

The war is on—much mission property and investment is being confiscated and destroyed in many areas of the world today. The effective preaching of the gospel is restricted or silenced in similar areas.

On the other hand, HCJB has under God been granted an extension of license to broadcast, an authorization for increased power and a clear potential entry into 30,000,000 homes of the world which own and use short wave radio receivers. Where the meeting of Christians is forbidden, the believer can hear the Word and testimony from fellow believers by radio. Where the gospel cannot be preached, it can be received over the air.

May God grant us the means to accept the challenge to maintain the witness of the gospel of Christ to the uttermost parts of the earth—until He comes.

The above paragraphs are taken from the 16 page, illustrated brochure "STORMING EAR GATE." Secure your free copy by writing to HCJB Advance Program Director, Reuben E. Larson, Box 109, Wheaton, Illinois. (Advertisement)

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Invest in Eternal Values

By Editor John R. Rice

The Sword of the Lord Foundation desires to borrow money from Christians only for the financing of our great and expanded work. We will pay four per cent interest, payable semi-annually. The large and increasing work of the Sword of the Lord Foundation, in publishing *The Sword of the Lord*, in publishing the finest Christian books, in giving free literature around the world to millions of people in several languages, in running conferences on evangelism to inspire Christian workers and help bring about revival—all these things demand more capital than we have been able to accumulate in the business, and by the assets which Mrs. Rice and I had collected and turned over to the business when it was incorporated as of January 1, 1947.

For example, in our building we have now at manufacturing cost over \$100,000 worth of the finest Christian books. These include, of course, my own books, and books of Dr. Bob Jones, Dr. Robert G. Lee, Dr. John Linton, Dr. Joe Henry Hankins, and others. Their retail value is far above this figure. But it takes a great deal of advertising and promotion to sell these books to bookstores and to individuals. We do not have the money for advertising and promotion.

There is an urgent need right now to reprint Dr. Bob Jones' *Revival Sermons*, to reprint Dr. W. B. Riley's book, *The Preacher and His Preaching*. Two new books are now in process of manufacture, a book of revival sermons by Evangelist Douglas Winn, and a great book, *Eternal Retribution*, by the famous Methodist preacher of a generation ago, Rev. Elbert Munsey. We have also accepted a splendid book of heart-moving sermons on the second coming of Christ by Dr. Lee Roberson of Chattanooga, Tennessee, and are ready to print it.

My own book, *Prayer—Asking and Receiving*, has had 120,000 copies printed. Of the last printing of 20,000 copies, 10,000 copies are yet to be bound. We must pay for that binding and it will take several thousand dollars. And we need those books within a month or two.

We need to buy office machines which will cost \$2,300, but which will save money and enlarge the work.

In other words, we need \$25,000 or \$30,000 very soon for this great work which is expanding rapidly, and being so wonderfully blessed of God.

The business is very carefully managed. God is blessing tremendously. We believe that no Christian publishing house in the world receives so many reports of people saved through its printed ministry as the Sword of the Lord Foundation. We do not know of any Christian publication in the world being so used of God in the blessing of ministers and the bringing of revival fires as THE SWORD OF THE LORD.

We want loans only from Christian people. We want the money to have God's blessing upon it. And we want it accompanied with prayer. One who lends money to the Sword of the Lord Foundation will have several benefits. First, he gets a good interest rate on his money. Second, we believe the investment is safer than most. No one has ever lost a dollar by lending to the Sword of the Lord. We believe no one ever will. Third, one may have his money working to get out the gospel and to honor the Lord Jesus. Thus, one's money can be used to lay up treasure in Heaven.

If you have money which you want to be used carefully by this non-profit Christian organization in getting out the gospel, and wish at the same time to receive four per cent interest on your capital, payable semi-annually, please write Dr. John R. Rice, president Sword of the Lord Foundation, Wheaton, Illinois.

Preacher, Save Thyself

(Continued from page 1)

12. Refuse to be diverted from this work. Guard against every temptation that would abate your interest in it.

13. Believe the assertion of Christ that He is with you in this work always and everywhere, to give you all the help you need.

14. "He that winneth souls is wise," and "if any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God, who giveth to all men liberally and upbraidth not, and he shall receive." "But let him ask in faith." Remember, therefore, that you are bound to have the wisdom that shall win souls to Christ.

15. Being called of God to the work, make your calling your constant argument with God for all that you need for the accomplishment of the work.

16. Be diligent and laborious, "in season and out of season."

17. Converse much with all classes of your hearers on the question of their salvation, that you may understand their opinions, errors, and wants. Ascertain their prejudices, ignorance, temper, habits, and whatever you need to know to adapt your instruction to their necessities.

18. See that your own habits are in all respects correct; that

you are temperate in all things—free from the stain or smell of tobacco, alcohol, drugs, or anything of which you have reason to be ashamed, and which may stumble others.

19. Be not "light-minded," but "set the Lord always before you."

20. Bridle your tongue, and be not given to idle and unprofitable conversation.

21. Always let your people see that you are in solemn earnest with them, both in the pulpit and out of it; and let not your daily intercourse with them nullify your serious teaching on the Sabbath.

22. Resolve to "know nothing" among your people "save Jesus Christ and him crucified;" and let them understand that, as an ambassador of Christ, your business with them relates wholly to the salvation of their souls.

23. Be sure to teach them as well by example as by precept. Practice yourself what you preach.

24. Be especially guarded in your intercourse with women, to raise no thought or suspicion of the least impurity in yourself.

25. Guard your weak points. If naturally tending to gayety and trifling, watch against occasions of failure in this direction.

26. If naturally sombre and unsocial, guard against moroseness and unsociability.

27. Avoid all affectation and sham in all things. Be what you profess to be, and you will have no temptation to "make believe."

28. Let simplicity, sincerity, and Christian propriety stamp your whole life.

29. Spend much time every day and night in prayer and direct communion with God. This will make you a power for salvation. No amount of learning and study can compensate for the loss of this communion. If you fail to maintain communion with God, you are "weak as another man."

30. Beware of the error that there are no means of regeneration; and, consequently, no connection of means and ends in the regeneration of souls.

31. Understand that regeneration is a moral, and, therefore, a voluntary change.

32. Understand that the gospel is adapted to change the hearts of men, and in a wise presentation of it you may expect the efficient cooperation of the Holy Spirit.

33. In the selection and treatment of your texts, always secure the direct teaching of the Holy Spirit.

34. Let all your sermons be heart and not merely head sermons.

35. Preach from experience, and not from hearsay, or mere reading and study.

36. Always present the subject which the Holy Spirit lays upon your heart for the occasion. Seize the points presented by the Holy Spirit to your own mind, and present them with the greatest possible directness to your congregation.

37. Be full of prayer whenever you attempt to preach, and go from your closet to your pulpit with the inward groanings of the Spirit pressing for utterance at your lips.

38. Get your mind fully imbued with your subject, so that it will press for utterance; then open your mouth, and let it forth like a torrent.

39. See that "the fear of man that bringeth a snare" is not upon you. Let your people understand that you fear God too much to be afraid of them.

40. Never let the question of your popularity with your people influence your preaching.

41. Never let the question of salary deter you from "declaring the whole counsel of God, whether men will hear or forebear."

42. Do not temporize, lest you lose the confidence of your people, and thus fail to save them. They cannot thoroughly respect you as an ambassador of Christ, if they see that you dare not do your duty.

43. Be sure to "commend yourself to every man's conscience in the sight of God."

44. Be "not a lover of filthy lucre."

45. Avoid every appearance of vanity.

46. Compel your people to respect your sincerity and your spiritual wisdom.

47. Let them not for one moment suppose that you can be influenced in your preaching by any consideration of salary, more or less, or none at all.

48. Do not make the impression that you are fond of good dinners, and like to be invited out to dine; for this will be a snare to you, and a stumbling block to them.

49. Keep your body under, lest, after having preached to others, yourself should be a castaway.

50. "Watch for souls as one who must give an account to God."

51. Be a diligent student, and thoroughly instruct your people in all that is essential to their salvation.

52. Never flatter the rich.

53. Be especially attentive to the wants and instruction of the poor.

54. Suffer not yourself to be bribed into a compromise with sin by donation parties.

55. Suffer not yourself to be publicly treated as a mendicant, or you will come to be despised by a large class of your hearers.

Whose Tears?

(Continued from page 6)

ditional years for his life. Praying with tears is usually effective. Dry-eyed prayers often come from dry hearts. Dry hearts do not produce the flowers that bloom with Heaven's graces. Let us pray the Lord to give us soft hearts.

HANNAH PRAYED WITH TEARS (I Sam. 1:10). Here was a woman who saw the great need of Israel and prayed for a son who might bring the people back to God. She was a barren woman. Though she was barren of children, her heart was rich in its desires toward God. She saw the need of the people, she realized the need of God's presence, she craved being the instrument through whom the deliverer might come. Again the Lord saw those precious tears, looked into that praying heart and granted the desire of her soul. O that we, too, might thus weep over the need and receive the answer from Heaven.

A MIGHTY PREACHER HAD TEARS (Acts 20:19). The Apostle Paul

who was mighty in word and deed had a tender heart. He wept over the people of God night and day. His were not dry sermons. They were moistened with tears. His were not cold sermons. Hot tears from a warm heart told of his deep love for those to whom he ministered in Ephesus. He wept because he cared. These new converts were a burden on his soul. His protracted meeting was three years long (Acts 20:31). We do not know when he took up the collection, but we do know when he wept. What a model preacher he was. May God give us tender hearts, moistened eyes and spirits that love those to whom we minister.

(The above is one of thirty-three chapters in the book, *Strange Short Stories By the Doctor*, 123 pages, paper bound, which may be purchased for 75c from Sword of the Lord Publishers, Wheaton, Illinois.)

ning for a revival of God's work, some of your worldly-church members will invite you to a party. Go not, or you are in for a circle of them, that will defeat your prayers.

63. Do not be deceived. Your spiritual power with your people will never be increased by accepting such invitations at such times. If it is a good time to have parties, because the people have leisure, it is also a good time for religious meetings, and your influence should be used to draw the people to the house of God.

64. See that you personally know and daily live upon Christ.

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Letters About Jones

(Continued from page 3)

paper concerning E. Stanley Jones. It is thoroughly disgusting and is nothing more than mudslinging.

"My Bible tells me that the only judge of men is God, but apparently you seem to feel that He has given you a special commission to pronounce judgment on anyone whose religious thinking does not correspond with your own. I also cannot understand why you have any right to pass judgment on Dr. Jones' use or interpretation of the Bible . . .

"I write this because I have been helped in my Christian life and my ministry by his preaching and by his writings. You yourself admit that there is a great deal wrong with the United States, that we are on the road to Hell, but when Dr. Jones makes an honest and sincere criticism of some of the things in our nation and our government, he is a socialist, a communist, and all the other words you can think of for a scoundrel . . .

"You have a lot of good material and ideas in your paper, but you must have been having a bad day when you wrote that article. Why don't you occasionally print a letter like this in your paper instead of all of those, 'I like THE SWORD OF THE LORD because . . . ' affairs. It would present a truer picture of your readers' attitudes, I am sure.

"Sincerely,
(Signed) Howard L. Hahn"

Our answer is given here:

"My dear Mr. Hahn:

"Thank you for your letter of July 10.

"You may remember that the dear Lord Jesus said, 'Beware of false prophets, which come to you in sheep's clothing, but inwardly they are ravening wolves. Ye shall know them by their fruits. Do men gather grapes of thorns, or figs of thistles? Even so every good tree bringeth forth good fruit; but a corrupt tree bringeth forth evil fruit. A good tree cannot bring forth evil fruit, neither can a corrupt tree bring forth good fruit. Every tree that bringeth not forth good fruit is hewn down, and cast into the fire. Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them' (Matt. 7:15-20). We are not to judge the heart of anybody. But we are clearly commanded to judge false prophets by their works. I cannot judge a man's heart but I can judge what he says, his doctrine, when he writes it in a book as Dr. E. Stanley Jones has done. In this matter I am obeying the plain in-

junction of Jesus Christ and you ought to do the same.

"I take it that you agree with the pro-Russian teaching of E. Stanley Jones. There is a great deal wrong with the United States, but the freedom we have with the right of an individual to own property, or to develop a business, or to get paid according to his work, is not one of the things wrong. That freedom is the kind taught in the Word of God and is a part of the Christian content and philosophy.

One who goes against that goes against the Bible and against Christianity. If you prefer Russia and the Russian way, then they would like to have your help and we would be glad to be rid of you in this country. On the other hand, if you are for the Bible and for the American way of life you should say so. It is a sad and poor business for a minister of the gospel to be running down a man like myself who stands for the Word of God and for the freedom and the philosophy of life which the Bible clearly teaches.

"In the Saviour's name, yours,
"John R. Rice"

Congregational Pastor Says E. Stanley Jones' Article "Completely Misleading"

Rev. Lester E. Smith, pastor of the First Congregational Church, Pierre, South Dakota, writes: "Dear Sir: I have just read your completely misleading article on E. Stanley Jones in the issue of July 6th of THE SWORD." Then he says

I am doing the Devil's work and says, "All of this sniping at great Christian leaders with whom you do not happen to agree will not serve the cause of Christ but rather hinder it."

Here is the editor's answer: "My dear Brother Smith:

"I am always glad to have the honest reaction of readers of THE SWORD OF THE LORD and so I thank you for your letter of July 6. You did not like my article concerning Dr. E. Stanley Jones.

"However, when you say, 'your completely misleading article' you are wrong. You ought to read that article again. I gave exact quotations, again and again from Dr. Jones himself. Now if I have misquoted Dr. Jones I would be misleading. If I have not misquoted Dr. Jones, but have fairly represented him, by printing his own words, then, of course, you owe me an apology because it was an honest article, not misleading but so fair as to give the exact quota-

tion and the page number in every case. I recognize your right to your opinion but I think it only fair to ask you to prove your charge which I think is a very serious one. If my article was misleading and misrepresents Dr. Jones in any wise, will you please tell me how? That Dr. Jones is a socialist in principle, that he does admire the socialism of Russia, that he is a special friend and co-worker of the red bishop Dr. Oxnam, that he regularly runs with modernists, I think everybody knows. If you do not know, I hope you will check up and find out.

"But there is always some reason for charges like yours. I do not know what it is in your case. I wonder if you agree with Dr. Jones and the socialists and communists that the government should confiscate the property of individuals, should do away with all private wealth, should leave the Bible standard of paying people according to their real deservings, and support them instead with no relation to their worth to society? I wonder if you favor the Russian plan better than the American plan? And I wonder if you, too, have not discarded the classic Christian position on the inspiration of the Bible? I will be deeply grateful if you

Can I Know God's Will?

(Continued from page 7)

Let's be quite honest about this together tonight. Some of you who have asked me already today, "How may I know God's will?"—are you prepared for that? Some of you have not asked me, but some of you desperately want to know. Well, you must face this thing through. Let's be practical. Are you prepared for the cost of it—the cost of *really* knowing God's will? How about it? The price of putting Christ upon the throne; the price of a meekness and submissiveness of spirit in order that through that life surrendered to Him you may die?

I hope you will not make this Christian life and this problem of guidance complicated, because it is not; it is simplicity itself. For the simplicity of the whole business is that continually your life is always at the disposal of the Lord in order that He might work out His plan.

I have met some great men of God in my time, and I have always been conscious of the fact that their greatness lay in the fact of their intense simplicity, their absolute devotion to the Saviour, their love for their Lord. And somehow, all through their lives, they had the song of victory of a risen Christ! That has always been true.

You who have studied church history would know perfectly well that men of God such as Wesley and Wilberforce and Moody and others have all been characterized by the fact that their heart bears an intense devotion to the Saviour.

Have you ever heard or read of Bishop Taylor Smith? Oh, he was a great man! He is in Glory now. He was a bishop in the Church of England. What a remarkable man he was! I met him only on one occasion—at the Crystal Palace in London before the war. It was on Bible Day, our annual exhibition of Bibles. I was looking after a bookstore thinking I was very important, but nobody was looking at the bookstore at all. Presently along one of the gangways there came the bishop. He carried his person well in front of him! As the portly bishop strutted along the gangway, he came to my bookstore. When he got there he stopped. He picked up a book. And my heart nearly stood still. Could it be that my first customer that day was to be none other than Bishop Taylor Smith?

After a moment he turned, looked at me and said, "Young man," (that was true then!)—"young man, what are you thinking about right now?" You know, that is rather an awkward question to be asked by a bishop on just being acquainted! I thought, Well, I'd better be honest. So I said to him, "Bishop, I was wondering why a bishop in the Church of England should be interested in reading a book called *Questionable Amusements*!"

He looked at me and as he strolled away majestically, he said, "Young man, I think that is a very questionable amusement that you are about!"

Well, of course, I felt about an inch high! But do you know it was said of that man that anybody who got within a mile of Bishop Taylor Smith was in grave danger of getting converted.

Thank Heaven for sanctified humor by the way. (Do not let me digress, but I do hope that your Christianity has not taken away your sense of humor. If it has, you are in for a nervous breakdown!) Oh, it is a great gift! If only God would but cherish it for us all—a sanctified sense of humor!

And that was Bishop Taylor Smith—a great man, a theological man, an educated man, a talented man, but at heart as simple as a little child.

Oh, dear friends, that is what I would covet for my life. I do not know about you, but that is what I want more than anything. Listen, a walk with God in utter surrender of heart and life continually to Jesus means that through me He can work out His purpose.

But, wait a minute! Let's get very practical about this business. That is all very well. You see

that the spiritual principle is the thing that I have been driving home tonight—that guidance depends upon your surrender, an enlightened mind depends upon a sanctified heart. Got that? All right. How does it all work out?

How to Learn the Will of God

Now, let's be practical about this: how are we going to get to know? "It is all very well if you talk about that," you say, "but look here, I have a problem to face tomorrow. And I have to know the will of God for my future. How is it going to be done?" Let me give you an illustration.

You have all heard of Dr. F. B. Meyer. If you have not, I hope you will read some of his books. His Bible biographies are absolute masters.

Dr. F. B. Meyer was once out at sea on a ship for a voyage. Coming into port one night he was standing on the bridge with the captain. It was a very stormy night, a very rough night, and it seemed to him, as he looked at the entrance to the harbor, that it was very narrow. He turned to the captain on the bridge beside him and said, "Captain, how do you know when to turn this ship into that narrow harbor?"

The captain looked at him and began to laugh as he said, "That's an art. Do you see those three red lights on the shore?"

"Yes, sir."

"When those three red lights are all in a straight line I go right in!"

God has given to intelligent people who are prepared to use their brains, three red lights for guidance. He has given to us His Bible. He has given to us the inward witness of His Spirit in our hearts. He has given to us outward circumstances. And when the Word of God and the Spirit of God and outward circumstances are in a line, go right ahead, but until they are, stand still.

How to Find Guidance From the Word

The Word of God—how do I find guidance from that?

Have you ever heard of a promise box, the thing that you stick a pin in and pull out a text and then open it? Now, I am sure that is a means of comfort to a lot of people, but I am not prepared to stake my future on a lucky stab. I want to be more sure of things than that. I do not think that is God's way for me. It is a help, it is a comfort to take a promise out of a box; oh, but I want to be sure.

How can I know the will of God from the Word of God? You will pardon me if I produce just a personal illustration because it seems the only way I know how to talk to you is from experience.

I referred last evening to an issue that I had to face some years ago, when I felt God calling me out of business into the ministry. I had no training for the ministry at all. I had never been to a theological college; I never have. I have never had that privilege. I wish I had. He spoke to me too late in life, or, shall I say, I listened to Him too late in life. I knew on the one hand God was speaking, and on the other hand I knew everybody else was against it. I knew on the one hand that I thought God was calling me. On the other hand I fought too many problems.

I will tell you what I did. I got a piece of paper and drew a line down the middle. On one side I put, "Arguments in Favor of Staying in Business," and on the other side I put, "Arguments in Favor of Going Into the Ministry." And I began. I numbered them. I had them all down on each side of that line. I think when I began they were all equal. Morning by morning I took that piece of paper with me into my Quiet Time and as I read my Bible, I asked the Lord day by day to give me a verse which would meet one or other of these arguments. I said, "Lord, I am not here to fool You. I am here because I mean business and I want to know. You saved me in order to lead me and guide

me and make me a blessing. Very well, then, now here is a practical chance of doing it together." So I said, "Lord, what is your will?"

Day by day I turned to my Bible. Almost every day a verse seemed to speak to me and I began to write that verse against one of these arguments. At the end of a year every argument in favor of staying in business had been completely wiped out—every one of them. It took a year, but I was not in a hurry. I was willing to wait; I wanted it to be in God's time. Too much was at stake to dash at the thing. Too much to risk, just plunge into the unknown. I wanted intelligently to find out the will of God. And I found it out as I sought my Bible every day on that piece of paper and I committed it all to the Lord; and one by one the way opened up!

Now, too many Christian people, I am sorry to say, just do not

think for themselves. I have known people who are tremendously intelligent in every other aspect of life than in the realm of the Spirit. They think about their job; they do their examinations; they work at the thing they are doing. But when it comes to the things of the Spirit, they say, "Now all we have to do is to let our minds be a blank." Well, that is not very hard for some of us! But the Devil can fill a blank mind as well as Christ. I find that guidance does not come through an empty mind; it comes to a heart full of the love of Jesus. And if day by day I will turn to my Bible and seek honestly and earnestly to find out God's will, He is guaranteed to show me, for His Word is a light to my path and a lamp unto my feet. Got that?

Look here! that is going to take discipline, that is going to take time. It will mean that you

are going to turn to your Book every day. It would be interesting to know what percentage of the student body of Wheaton College observe a daily Quiet Time with God. I do not know anything about your routine here and perhaps this is where I am putting my foot completely in it; but I risk it.

I want to say this: that there ought to be no such thing in your day—any day—that will crowd out at least one hour on your knees with your Bible and in prayer. If you have your schedule so completely tight and geared up that you have every minute of the day packed in and you cannot give an hour to your devotional life, my friend, you are on the wrong foot. You are running into danger. You are going to run into defeat and temptation. You cannot stand in these days against the power of evil unless you are feeding your soul and your mind and heart

(Continued on page 11)

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Can I Know God's Will?

(Continued from page 10)

with the old Book. "Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God" (Matt. 4:4).

Therefore, whatever may be your study, whatever may be the time you occupy in studies and exams and recreation, I am saying that some of you here, (metaphorically speaking) ought to get yourselves by the back of the neck and adjust your day at once and start again. I would see to it that the freshest moment of the day is given to the study of the Word of God, or to the discovery of His will—that's what matters, isn't it? You are soon going to be out from this college into your job, into your business. What a tragedy to miss God's best! What a tragedy to get into something that is not His will and to waste the years of your life in doing what you want to do instead of what God wants you to do! The Word of God.

How to Be Guided by the Spirit

Now a second thing with which we can find out about guidance is the witness of the Spirit. That is to say, that when the Lord Jesus has come into your life, the Holy Spirit is there and He is there to guide. Here is a very practical test for you. Somebody here is saying to me, "I think God's will for me is China. I think He is calling me to the mission field, but I am not sure, I want to know." Shall I tell you how you can know, beyond a shadow of a doubt? God is not going to fool you about that. God is tremendously concerned for you to live your life in the center of His will. If God's will for you is China or the mission field, the pressure of the Spirit of God in your life will be so terrific that you will have no peace until you start moving toward China. And if God's will for you is not China, you will discover that the pressure

of the Spirit of God is relieved and there is no sense of push toward China. The pressure, the inner pressure of the Spirit of God—that is the best description I can give it—that sense of urge, that sense of need, that sense of the pulling in your heart for a country, that sense of crying to God that He might save the people of that land, that sense of how China is all the time lighted up in your mind and in your heart whenever you read a missionary magazine—you cannot escape it. You dream about it. You think about it. You pray about it—the will of God for your life. The pressure of the inward Spirit of God upon your life directing you into His Word! But if the will of God is not China you will find there will be no pressure at all. Inward witness of the Spirit!

Now, let me just qualify that. This is the wonderful thing about God's will. The Christian does not only do what God tells him to do, he does not only wait to be told what to do by God, but he anticipates what God wants him to do and does it.

Let me say that again. The Christian does not only do what God tells him, he does not only wait to be told what God wants him to do, but he anticipates what God wants him to do and he does it. I am going to illustrate that in a very, very humdrum sort of fashion.

In England we play a game called cricket. It lasts several days and they begin at eleven o'clock in the morning, and they stop at one for lunch. And then they start again at two and stop at four for a cup of tea. Then they start again at quarter past four and finish at half past six. It goes on for five days—a very wonderful game.

This summer I happened to watch the West Indies play England. It was a very humiliating experience for an Englishman. These men from the West Indies with their shining dark-skinned faces, dressed up—how I love them! As I watched them play that game of cricket I saw that they had got our English team completely rattled. There was one man on the West Indies side, a

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man called Warrell. And every time that man went into bat, our English men's knees were knocking. I'm telling you! They just knew that he was in there to stay! I concentrated one day a complete hour watching that man strike with his bat. But before the ball had left the hand of the bowler twenty-two yards away down the pitch, the batsman had adjusted his bat and placed it where he knew that the ball was coming. And the poor fellow with the ball just bowled his heart out, it was no use! He could not put a surprise on. It was no use trying a fast one or a slow one, an off break or a leg break. Whatever he did that man's bat was on the spot before the ball had left his hand. What do you call that? Anticipation.

Let me put it in another way. I have a very, very dear friend, one of my best friends who plays stand-off-half for Ireland, in Rugby football. He is the most brilliant halfback in the world. (I can say that safely in America because you do not play Rugby Union football here, so it is all right.) But he is reckoned to be the finest halfback playing Rugby football today, and he went with the British Isles team to Australia and New Zealand for this summer. He is a great friend of mine. He is a wonderful Christian. He came to play against England at Twickenham in March, and the day afterwards he was giving his testimony in Richmond Theater on a Sunday night at our service. Oh, he is a lovely fellow!

I went to Dublin recently and I saw Ireland play Wales. And they simply went through that Welsh team like scissors through paper. And it was all because of this one fellow whose name was Jack Kyle. Whenever Jack got that ball out of the scrum it was rushed to him by the scrum half, and whenever he got it, he was on the move about five seconds before his opposite number had time to move a muscle. He knew exactly what the opposite man was going to do, what direction he was going, and when any of the opposite number came this way, Jack would swerve around them and down the other way. That poor

fellow who opposed him that day must have been absolutely frantic. He just went through their team like scissors through paper. Why? Anticipation.

Now, look here, let me put that right into the spiritual realm. The Christian does not merely do what God tells him to do. He does not sit back with an empty mind and a bit of paper and hope that God will fill it. He knows in certain circumstances quite clearly what God would expect him to do and he does it. Let me apply that to the text.

When you are tempted not to do the right thing in your friendships, the Christian anticipates God's will and he does it. He does not question it. He does not say, "Can't I, just this once?" He does not say, "It doesn't matter, only this one time." No, he knows that God's will for his life is ordered and he walks in that way. Oh, he discovers that when he is weak he is strong. He discovers that when he obeys, he receives the power. Oh, my, when some tremendously alluring thing is put in the man's hand, as it were, and it is fascinating and thrilling and bubbling, but it is not God's will, when the Christian turns to face the will of God and resists all the allurements, he discovers the first step he does it, he is receiving the power of the Holy Ghost. He anticipates God's will.

There are some things in your life that you are permitting that you know perfectly well are not God's will at all. You know perfectly well that the basis of your relationships—forgive me for harping on this, in case you think I do always; I very rarely do—but I want you to be sure that this is the thing that is getting young people into a mess. The basis of your sexual relationships are wrong. And I am telling you that some of you are ruining your future and wrecking God's purpose for your life. And you will never get to the mission field and you will never get into God's will, and you will never get victory because you are living on a low level!

You say, "I can't help it."

Listen, you say, "I'm weak. It's too nice, it is too pleasant, it is too thrilling, it is terrific. It is the instinct of my mind, my body, I like it." My friend, listen, if you had the boldness and courage to face the will of God and say, "God help me, I am stopping it tonight," the first step you take in that road is empowered by the Holy Spirit.

"The Holy Ghost," says the Book, "whom God has given to them that obey Him." You have got to take

the first step in obedience. There are some of you who can listen to me night by night with rapt attention, with tremendous eagerness, ready to learn and know that it is right. But what is happening a half hour after you are gone? You know perfectly well that your lack of courage, your study, your mind, your program have just been ruined by the kind of thing you are fooling around doing!

You see, the Christian is the man who anticipates that God's will is purity, and he is bold enough to go ahead and to believe that God will give him the power. Anticipating the will of God.

Guidance by Outward Circumstances

Just one more thought, then I am through. I have said to you something about outward circumstance. Let me say this. The Christian moves into the will of God and discovers the will of God by the Book, by the Spirit, by outward circumstances. By that I mean this: there comes a time in a man's life when every door is shut except the one that God opens, and then he goes right in. Got it? You might be knocking at many doors just now, trying many ways out, but there is only one right way, and in God's time He will open the door.

When Peter was in prison, it was not until he walked right up to the iron gate that it became an open door. Don't expect God to reveal His will for you for next week until you know it for today.

Well, my friends, I want to finish tonight by asking you just

DURING AUGUST



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a very simple thing that must be obvious to you. Are you prepared for the price of it? Oh, you see, we get down to that every time. How far am I prepared to go? If you are not prepared to pay the price of this thing, don't you ever be such a hypocrite to say that you want to know God's will. You do not! Don't you ever come to anybody and say, "I want to know God's will about this and God's will about that," and all the time you are not willing to part with the thing that makes it impossible for God ever to show you His will! The inward witness of the Spirit. Say, have you ever heard the Holy Spirit of God say to you, "Don't you ever do that again"? Have you ever heard that? And what have you done?

Oh, you say you have no power? I say, "Look up to Jesus tonight, unto Him who has all power." Are you prepared for the price? I think that your answer to that question will be very much answered in the way you go out of this meeting and what you do when it is all over. Is it going to be fooling around again? Is it going to be flirtation again? Is it going to be just messing up the whole business again? Is it going to be failure again? Is it going to be sin again? Or is it from this moment, "Lord Jesus Christ, Thy will. Nothing else, nothing less, nothing more—Thy will"? And I know that will is holy. Do you see? And as you dare to take that step in obedience, oh, thank God, in answer to obedience the power of the Holy Spirit floods your life. Will you test that tonight?

Now, my friend, you have been faced with a very serious challenge tonight and you have got to answer the Lord about it. Are you going on as you are, or do you want to know God's will and to walk in it? If you do, you prepare to pay the price of it and cut out the thing that you know makes it impossible for God ever to show you His will. You let your life here tonight get right with God and He will guide you. But are you prepared for that? Tell Him so. Tell Him your answer.

Just as I am, Thy love unknown
Has broken every barrier down,
Now, to be thine, yea, thine alone,
Oh, Lamb of God I come.

Jesus, Thine all victorious light
Shed in my soul abroad,
Then shall my heart no longer
Roam
Rooted and fixed in God.

Oh, that in me the sacred fire
Might now begin to glow,
Burn up the dross of base desire
And make the mountains flow.

PRAYER: Living, loving Lord, answer prayer for every life here tonight. Reveal the sinfulness of sin, the futility of guidance unless there is a surrendered heart. Bring us, dear Lord, we beseech Thee, to Thy feet. And draw us, to look up into Thy face and in obedience counting upon Thy power, to walk the way of peace.

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Deathbed Repentance

(Continued from page 1)

aged person. The Scriptures indicate from Genesis to Revelation that God will pardon, forgive, and save the sinner when he comes to Him in true repentance and faith.

Of course, we need to emphasize that word "sincere." If the sinner is not sincere in his repentance, it will avail him nothing. It was Spurgeon who said, "I have no confidence in deathbed repentance, because so few live up to it after they get well." We can all catch the humor of Mr. Spurgeon's statement, but he, too, believed in the love of God and the gracious willingness of our Father to forgive sinners whenever they may come.

In the light of all of this, we find ourselves facing two problems. First, to get to men before death comes. In love we must race to the unsaved with the gospel. We have delayed too long to take the gospel to the people of this earth. There are millions who have never heard the name of Christ. Again, we must take the gospel to our loved ones who are lost. Let us not wait until some great catastrophe comes upon us or them, but let us speak now and win them now.

Our second problem is to get men to accept the Lord Jesus at once. We need to emphasize that little word *now*. Men and women, boys and girls need Christ now, and they will need Him in eternity.

With Christians praying earnestly, I want to point out to the unsaved of this audience the folly of delay—of putting off your acceptance of Jesus.

I. It Is Unfair to Christ Himself

The Lord Jesus died for us on the cross. He deserves to have the best of our lives. It is not fair to give your life to the Devil and then hand to the Lord a few dying moments. It is like the drunk who takes his pay check and spends it in drunkenness and sin, then brings home to his wife, the mother of his children, a few paltry pennies. It is not fair.

I have a certain respect for the infidel who, when his loved ones begged him to turn to Christ in the hour of death, said, "I will die as I lived. I have lived for the Devil; therefore, I will die and take my place in Hell. I will not run to God as a coward in this dying moment."

The infidel was a fool in life and a fool in death, but I have respect for his sense of fairness.

Lost friend, it isn't fair to Jesus to live for the enemy of God and righteousness and then give the Lord a few weak, pitiful, dying moments. Therefore, I plead with you to accept the Lord now as your Saviour.

II. By Delay, You Are Losing Joy

The happiest life is the Christian life. Jesus said, "I am come that ye might have life, and that ye might have it more abundantly." You cannot know what true joy is until you make Christ your Saviour. The world's joy turns to ashes, but the happiness of Christ is a deep-settled, abiding peace.

Sinner after sinner has told me after conversion, "I did not know there could be anything so wonderful as this."

Come to Christ, rest in Him and receive the greatest joy this world knows anything about. The Lord can remake your home, transform your life, give you a new incentive for living, and put a perpetual song in your heart. Every day that you stay away from Him, you are losing that much joy.

III. By Rejecting Christ, You Are a Damning Influence to Others

Paul said, "For none of us liveth to himself, and no man dieth to himself." This can apply to the unsaved as well as to the Christian. Without Christ, your life and influence can point in only one direction—away from God and toward the world, the flesh, and the Devil.

The schoolteacher without

Christ is a damning influence. If I cared to take the time, I could illustrate over and over again. Here in our city are teachers who have rejected the Saviour and who add insult to injury. They mock Him and His cause. It is impossible at this time to estimate the extent of their damning influence. And notice this: a popular teacher who rejects and reviles the Saviour is worse than an unpopular one, for a charming and persuasive personality can lead multitudes astray.

The big business man, the employer of men without Christ, is a damning influence. In many cases employees look up to their employers, and these employers are lost. They wield a damning influence over their men who are lost. We need more out-and-out Christian businessmen—men who are not afraid and unashamed to speak of Jesus to others. Incidentally, businessmen, if you will firmly and courageously take your stand for Christ, others will respect your position. They will not laugh at you. They will look up to you. Don't be afraid to read the Bible and pray in your establishment. Do it quietly, but do it without fear.

Again, mothers and fathers without Christ are a damning influence. Boys and girls often come to the Saviour in spite of their parents, but it is hard for them, and the odds are against them. The hands of many parents will be stained with blood of their children because they have pointed them toward Hell. Parents, your children need an example. They need to see Christ in your life. They need to know where you stand on this all-important question.

IV. Delay Is Dangerous

Not only is it unfair to Christ, not only are you losing joy day by day, not only are you a damning influence to others, but putting off Christ is dangerous—it is exceedingly risky.

The common answer given by those who are urged to accept Jesus is, "Not now, some other time." All men intend to be saved sometime, but they forget the awful uncertainty of life.

Yes, you mean to repent, but suppose there is no time for repentance. Your good intentions will not save you. You meant to do right about this matter, but there was no time.

I need not remind you of thousands who die daily, who had no opportunity to repent. Death came quickly. I wonder how many of those who go from us by sudden death meant to make things right, but there was no time. Millions will be in Hell who intended to be in Heaven, but life ended suddenly for them, and they were lost.

Often it is said of the penitent thief on the cross that one such case is recorded in Scripture that none may despair of repentance on a deathbed. And only one case is given that none may presume. Do not take the story of the thief on the cross and say that you will be saved at the last hour. It is entirely possible that the thief was hearing the gospel for the first time. Many of you have heard it over and over again. Now is the time to accept.

Take no chance of losing your soul. Flee to the Saviour at once. Life is uncertain, and eternity is long. Therefore, be saved now.

Repent Today!

You have read the above sermon by Dr. Lee Roberson on "Deathbed Repentance." Now if you do not know for sure how to be saved, read the article, "Saved in Three Minutes," by Dr. A. J. Gordon in this same paper. Now the editor begs you to repent of your sins today and be saved. If you will today turn from your sin, depend upon Jesus Christ to save you and give Him your heart and life forever, please sign the following decision form. Then copy and mail it in a letter to me at once. I will tell Dr. Roberson of your decision and will write you an earnest letter of counsel and help. Decide now and sign and write!

Evangelist John R. Rice, Editor

THE SWORD OF THE LORD

Wheaton, Illinois

Dear Brother Rice:

I know that it is sinful and foolish to continue in rebellion against God and in sin now and then expect to repent on my deathbed. I will not continue a Christ-rejecting sinner. Today I confess to God my sinful state. The best I know, I turn my heart to Jesus Christ and trust Him to forgive and save me. This moment I accept Him and trust Him and rely on Him as my own personal Saviour. With His help, I will confess Christ openly as my Saviour and will try to live for Him.

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